

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing message recipient local information comprising the steps of:

identifying an attempt to send a mobile message from a sending party to a receiving handheld device of a receiving party, wherein said mobile message is a text message;

responsive to said identifying step, determining information local to said receiving party, wherein said location information comprises information indicating ~~indicates~~ whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed;

providing said determined local information to said sending party;

receiving an indication from said sending party that the message is urgent; and

determining whether to send[[ing]] an alert signal to said receiving handheld device based on said determined local information and said received indication ~~if the message is indicated as urgent by the sending party.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said local information further comprises information selected from the group consisting of a time, date, and day where said receiving handheld device is located.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for providing message recipient local information comprising the steps of:

initiating a mobile message between a sending party and a receiving handheld device of a receiving party, wherein said mobile message is a text message;

receiving local information from a service provider which services said receiving handheld device, wherein said location information indicates whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed;

receiving an indication from said sending party that the message is urgent;

processing said mobile message based on said received local information and said received indication; and

sending an alert signal to said receiving handheld device according to said processing ~~if the message is indicated as urgent by the sending party.~~

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein said local information further comprises information selected from the group consisting of a time, date, and day where said receiving handheld device is located.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to 4, wherein said processing step comprises, selecting an action from the group of actions consisting of sending said mobile message to said receiving handheld device, sending said mobile message to a mail box, and not sending said mobile message.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for providing location-based recipient information comprising:

a wireless service provider for providing wireless telephony services to a network of handheld devices; and,

a notification system configured to provide call recipient information associated with a receiving party in response to an attempt to send a ~~mobile~~ text message from a first

handheld device associated with a sending party to a second handheld device associated with said receiving party in said network, said call recipient information comprising local information acquired from a time source and receiving party information, said receiving party information indicating whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed, wherein said notification system ~~being~~ is further configured to acquire said local information prior to sending said ~~mobile~~ text message, wherein said notification system ~~being~~ is yet further configured to delay sending said ~~mobile~~ text message until a decision to affirmatively send said ~~mobile~~ text message is made by said sending party based on said provided call recipient information, wherein said notification system being still further configured to ~~send an alert signal to said receiving handheld device if~~ prompt said sending party to indicate whether the text message is indicated as urgent by the sending party, wherein said notification system being is further configured to send an alert signal to said receiving handheld device based on said indication of said sending party and said local information.

9. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

identifying an attempt to send a mobile message from a sending party to a receiving handheld device of a receiving party, wherein said mobile message is a text message;

responsive to said identifying step, determining information local to said receiving party, wherein said location information indicates whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed;

providing said determined local information to said ~~originating source~~ sending party;

receiving an indication from said sending party that the message is urgent; and

determining whether to send[[ing]] an alert signal to said receiving handheld device based on said determined local information and said received indication ~~if the message is indicated as urgent by the sending party.~~

10. (Previously Presented) The machine readable storage according to claim 9, wherein said local information further comprises information selected from the group consisting of a time, date, and day where said receiving handheld device is located.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

initiating a mobile message between a sending party and a receiving handheld device of a receiving party, wherein said mobile message is a text message;

receiving local information from a service provider which services said receiving handheld device, wherein said location information indicates whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed;

receiving an indication from said sending party that the message is urgent;

processing said mobile message based on said received local information and said received indication; and

sending an alert signal to said receiving handheld device according to said processing ~~if the message is indicated as urgent by the sending party.~~

13. (Previously Presented) The machine readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said local information further comprises information selected from the group consisting of a time, date, and day where said receiving handheld device is located.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The machine readable storage according to 12, wherein said processing step comprises, selecting an action from the group of actions consisting of sending said mobile message to said receiving handheld device, sending said mobile message to a mail box, and not sending said mobile message.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for providing call recipient local information comprising the steps of:

identifying an attempt to establish a telephone call between a calling party and a receiving handheld device of a called party;

responsive to said identifying step, determining information local to said receiving handheld device, wherein said location information indicates whether said receiving party is not to be disturbed;

automatically determining ~~whether~~ how to process ~~complete~~ said telephone call ~~or terminate said telephone call~~ based upon said determined local information and information received from said calling party, wherein said information received from said calling party comprises an indication that said message is urgent, wherein said processing comprises selecting an action from the group of actions consisting of connecting said call to said receiving handheld device, connecting said call to a mail box, and not connecting said call; and

in response to connecting said call to said receiving handheld device, automatically sending an alert signal to said receiving handheld device ~~if the message is indicated as urgent by the sending party, said alert signal identifying said calling party.~~

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the local information includes a time, a date, day, and location where said receiving device is located.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

based on the local information, deferring said telephone call, which results in placing the call at an appropriate time as defined by at least one of the calling party and the called party.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, the local information includes a location where said receiving device is located.